



FORT GEORGE G. MEADE
MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fort Meade to dedicate human resources center to Vietnam vet and 9/11 fatality

EVENT: Human Resources Center Dedication to Master Sgt. (Retired) Max Bielke

WHEN: Scheduled for March 21, beginning at 10 a.m.

WHERE: Building 2234 at Fort Meade.

DIRECTIONS: From Maryland Route 295 North or South (Baltimore/Washington Parkway), take Maryland Route 175 East exit. Continue east for two miles and turn right onto Reece Road. Access procedures can be found at www.ftmeade.army.mil.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The tragedies of Sept. 11 shook the United States to its core and changed the lives of millions across the nation. On that day, retired Master Sgt. Max Beilke died after terrorists flew a hijacked airplane into the outer ring of the Pentagon, where he was attending a meeting. At that time, Beilke was the deputy chief of the Army Retirement Services Division of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

Six years later, the installation is dedicating the Human Resources Center to Beilke, who served in Vietnam, Germany, Korea and numerous assignments in the U.S. The Human Resources Center is located inside the old cooks and bakers school. Fort Meade was Beilke's last assignment before he retired from the Army in 1974. After he retired, Beilke served on the installation's retiree council and had planned to spend time volunteering around post after his retirement.

Beilke, an advocate for Soldier's rights was instrumental in getting Congress to pass the "TRICARE for Life" program, which now allows retirees to keep their TRICARE benefits past the age of 65.

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Several guest speakers are scheduled to attend the event, including Lt. Gen. Michael Rochelle, Army deputy chief of staff for personnel. Members of the Beilke family are also expected to attend the ceremony from Minnesota, Oregon and Laurel, Md.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Media interested in attending the event MUST contact Summer Barkley at (301) 677-1436 or Jennifer Downing at (301) 677-1486 by March 19 in order to gain access to the event.